AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-12. (cancelled)

13. (currently amended) A ~~The~~ data processing system ~~of claim 10 wherein~~, comprising:

a plurality of communications links designed to communicate trade information to and from a plurality of workstations, the trade information comprising information describing orders in an electronic market for items offered for sale or bid to buy, at least some of the trade information to be presented to the workstations;

a commission processing module designed to receive information relating to execution of trades in the items, and to determine a commission payable by a customer to a trade based at least in part on one or more characteristics from the group consisting of ~~said Environment State is adapted for determining~~ the time of the trade, day of the trade, ~~or~~ location of a trade, and the customer trading location, ~~of said at least one of said items,~~ or to apply a credit against commission fees based on bids or offers posted by the customer.~~.~~

14-22. (cancelled).

23. (currently amended) A data processing system for implementing a commission allocation process in transacting the purchase and sale of select items, ~~said items having a predetermined set of characteristics,~~ said system comprising:

a plurality of workstations for presenting trade information relating to trades of ~~said~~ items arranged by the data processing system;

a server programmed to receive ~~to support a control logic having at least one state, said at least one state being based on a set of predefined state attributes relating to said trade information, said control logic that implements a commission vector, said commission vector that receives~~ said trade information from said plurality of workstations ~~based on said state attributes,~~ and to determine ~~that determines~~ a commission payable by a customer to a trade based at least in part on one or more characteristics of the trade from the group consisting of the time of

the trade, day of the trade, location of the trade, and the customer trading location, or to apply a credit against commission fees based on bids or offers posted by the customer ~~on said trade information; and~~

~~a plurality of communications links for linking said server to said workstations.~~

24. (cancelled)

25. (currently amended) A method for determining a commission on a trade ~~of a select item, said item having a predetermined set of characteristics, said trade occurring between at least two customers,~~ said method comprising:

providing [[a]] control logic <u>designed to receive information relating to execution of trades in the items, and to determine a commission payable by a customer to a trade based at least in part on one or more</u> ~~having at least one state, said at least one state being based on~~ <u>a set of predefined trade</u> attributes <u>of a trade of an item arranged by a computer system between at least two customers, the one or more attributes being drawn from the group consisting of the time of the trade, day of the trade, location of the trade, and customer trading location, or to apply a credit against commission fees based on bids or offers posted by the customer;</u>

~~receiving trade information relating to said item;~~

~~in said at least one state, characterizing said trade information based on said trade attributes; and~~

determining <u>the</u> ~~said~~ commission <u>for the trade</u> based on <u>the one or more attributes of the</u> ~~said characterizing said~~ trade ~~information~~.

26. (cancelled)

27. (currently amended) The method of claim 25 further comprising:

assigning at least one of said two customers said commission based on <u>the one or more attributes of the</u> ~~said characterizing said~~ trade ~~information~~; and

presenting said commission to said at least one of said two customers.

28-31. (cancelled)

32. (currently amended) The method of claim 25 [[31]] wherein the commission is further based on ~~said receiving said trade information in an Environment State comprises determining~~ whether at least one of said two customers was active or passive during said trade.

33. (currently amended) The method of claim 25 [[31]] wherein the commission is further based on ~~said receiving said trade information in an Environment State comprises determining~~ a class which includes said item.

34-36 (cancelled).

37. (currently amended) A method for determining a reward for at least one customer, ~~said customer participating in a trade of a select item, said item having a predetermined set of characteristics,~~ said method comprising:

providing [[a]] control logic designed to determine a commission payable by a customer to a trade based at least in part on one or more ~~having at least one state, said at least one state being based on a set of predefined trade~~ attributes of a trade of an item arranged by a computer system between at least two customers, the one or more attributes being drawn from the group consisting of the time of the trade, day of the trade, location of the trade, and custoerm trading location, or to apply a credit against commission fees based on bids or offers posted by the customer;

~~receiving trade information relating to said item;~~

~~in said at least one state, characterizing said trade information based on said trade attributes; and~~

storing in the memory of the computer system for offset against future commissions an amount of a ~~determining said~~ reward based at least in part on the characterized attribute of the ~~on said characterizing said~~ trade ~~information~~.

38-42. (cancelled).

43. (currently amended) The method of claim 42 wherein ~~said receiving said trade information in said Environment State comprises determining~~ the commission is further based on whether said customer was active or passive during said trade.

44-49. (cancelled)

50. (original) The method of claim 37 wherein said determining said reward comprises determining whether items similar to said item being traded by said customer were traded by other customers at the time, day, or location said item was traded by said customer.

51. (original) The method of claim 37 wherein said determining said reward comprises determining whether said customer is a new customer.

52. (original) The method of claim 37 wherein said determining said reward comprises rewarding said customer for participating in at least part of said trade.

53. (original) The method of claim 37 wherein determining said reward comprises determining a rebate, a credit, or both assigned to said customer.

54. (cancelled)

55. (new) The data processing system of claim 13, wherein:
the commission processing module determines the commission based at least in part on the time of the trade.

56. (new) The data processing system of claim 13, wherein:

the commission processing module determines the commission based at least in part on the day of the trade.

57. (new) The data processing system of claim 13, wherein:

the commission processing module determines the commission based at least in part on the location of the trade.

58. (new) The data processing system of claim 13, wherein:

the commission processing module determines the commission based at least in part on an offset credit earned by previous posting of bids or offers by the customer.

59. (new) The data processing system of claim 13, wherein:

the commission processing module further determines the commission based at least in part on whether the customer was on an active side or a passive side of the trade.

60. (new) The data processing system of claim 13, wherein:

the commission processing module further determines the commission based at least in part on whether there is a spread in the transaction.

61. (new) The data processing system of claim 13, wherein:

the commission processing module further determines the commission based at least in part on the customer's method of accessing the system.

62. (new) The data processing system of claim 13, wherein:

the commission processing module further determines the commission based at least in part on a number of transactions the customer has executed.

63. (new) The data processing system of claim 13, wherein:

the commission processing module further determines the commission based at least in part on a level of liquidity of the item subject of the trade.

64. (new) The method of claim 25, wherein:

the server determines the commission based at least in part on the time of the trade.

65. (new) The method of claim 64, wherein:

the server determines the commission based at least in part on the day of the trade.

66. (new) The method of claim 64, wherein:

the server determines the commission based at least in part on the location of the trade.

67. (new) The method of claim 25, wherein:

the server determines the commission based at least in part on an offset credit earned by previous posting of bids or offers by the customer.

68. (new) The method of claim 25, wherein:

the server further determines the commission based at least in part on whether there is a spread in the transaction.

69. (new) The method of claim 25, wherein:

the server further determines the commission based at least in part on a level of liquidity of the item subject of the trade.

70. (new) The method of claim 37, wherein:

the reward is determined based at least in part on the time of the trade.

71. (new) The method of claim 37, wherein:

the reward is determined based at least in part on the day of the trade.

72. (new) The method of claim 37, wherein:

the reward is determined based at least in part on the location of the trade.

73. (new) The method of claim 37, wherein:

the reward is further determined based at least in part on whether the customer was on an active side or a passive side of the trade.

74. (new) The method of claim 37, wherein:

the reward is further determined based at least in part on whether there is a spread in the transaction.

75. (new) The method of claim 37, wherein:

the reward is further determined based at least in part on the customer's method of accessing the system.

76. (new) The method of claim 37, wherein:

the reward is further determined based at least in part on a number of transactions the customer has executed.

77. (new) The method of claim 37, wherein:

the reward is further determined based at least in part on a level of liquidity of the item subject of the trade.